

REMARKS

Receipt of the Office Action of May 2, 2005 is gratefully acknowledged.

Claims 11-21 have been examined. Of these claims, 13-17 and 19 have been objected to but indicated as containing allowable subject matter. Claims 11, 12, 18, 20 and 21 have been rejected as unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Eckert.

The indication that claims 13-17 and 19 contain allowable subject matter is appreciated. The format of these claims has been retained, however, in view of applicants' belief that the rejected claims are patentable over Eckert.

Claim 11 recites a sensor, a case, and at least one vibration absorber. The vibration absorber is affixed to a wall of the electronics case in order to dissipate vibrational energy. Note that the vibration absorber is ***affixed to a wall of the electronics case***. The reason for this arrangement is so that the vibrations applied to the electronics case from the sensor have an effective response provided for by the vibration absorber.

The examiner suggests that the damping layer 6 corresponds to the vibration absorber. For this suggestion to be plausible it is necessary to have the sensor 2 connected to the housing 11 and to transmit vibrations to the housing. It is respectfully submitted that such is not possible with the arrangement of Eckert. The sensor 2 is surrounded by a stress equalizing layer 5. The stress equalizing layer does not and can not correspond to the vibration absorber of the present invention because it does not receive vibrations from the housing as the vibration absorber of the present invention does.

What is disclosed in Eckert is not unlike what is disclosed in the Adams patent. Neither Eckert nor Adams disclose a vibration absorber like that claimed.

In addition, it is also noted that the housing 11 of Eckert and the housing 12 of Adams are made of plastic to prevent "excessive ringing" (col. 2, line 30 of Adams). These housings are not intended as providing a path for vibrations to an absorber. Accordingly, the basis for the examiner's rejection is simply without a sound foundation under the law which comprises 35 USC 103.

U.S. Patent Appl. 10/693,606

Finally, it is noted that new claims 22 - 45 have been added to insure that the scope of the present invention has been fully developed.

Reconsideration and reexamination are respectfully requested and claims 11 - 45 found allowable in their present format.

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Respectfully submitted,
BACON & THOMAS, PLLC



Felix J. D'Ambrosio
Attorney for Applicant

Registration Number 25,721

Customer Number *23364*

BACON & THOMAS, PLLC

625 Slaters Lane, Fourth Floor

Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Telephone: (703) 683-0500

Facsimile: (703) 683-1080

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